

W. P. SNOWDEN.

JUNE 7, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ROACH, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 168.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 168) granting a pension to W. P. Snowden, have examined the same and report:

The records of the War Department show that this man served in the war with Mexico from June 7, 1846, to June 21, 1847. He was enrolled as a sergeant in Company B, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, September 1, 1861, and after the expiration of his first term of service reenlisted as a veteran volunteer January 1, 1864. He was promoted to veterinary surgeon. Was mustered out with field and staff August 11, 1865.

January 26, 1884, he filed a claim under the general law for chronic diarrhea and results. This claim was rejected April 20, 1884, on the ground of no disability.

March 30, 1887, he filed a claim as a Mexican war survivor and was pensioned under the act of January 29, 1887, at \$8 per month. August 22, 1890, he applied under the act of June 27, 1890, and was pensioned at \$12 for lumbago, disease of left leg, and debility. November 18, 1892, he made application again under the general law and alleged also atrophy of muscles of left leg. In rejecting this claim the following language is used:

Reject alleged affection or atrophy of muscles of left leg on the ground that the same was incurred in the Mexican war, not rebellion service, as shown by claimant's statements and the evidence on file.

Diarrhea and disease of rectum again rejected on ground of no disability. An issue of \$2 per month was made June 1, 1896, for chronic diarrhea and resulting disease of rectum from date of first application, January 26, 1884, to January 28, 1887, date of commencement of pension under act of January 29, 1887.

He filed and established a claim for restoration to the general law rolls July 2, 1896, and was permitted to elect whether he would take the same rate under old or new laws. He is still drawing under the act of June 27, 1890.

His examinations report as follows: December 2, 1891, rated four-eighteenths for lumbago, eight-eighteenths for digestive organs, four-eighteenths for atrophy of thigh; July 13, 1892, rated six-eighteenths for age; June 6, 1894, no rates are given. Description of disease of rectum and diarrhea: May 6, 1896, six-eighteenths for chronic diarrhea, four-eighteenths for rectal disease, and four-eighteenths for atrophy left leg and lumbago; December 23, 1896, ten-eighteenths for rheumatism, fourteen-eighteenths for chronic diarrhea and rectum, six-eighteenths atrophy left leg, eight-eighteenths digestive organs, eight-eighteenths debility.

The claimant is 73 years of age and evidently greatly disabled, the most of his disability being due to service. It is strange that his disease of left leg, which is admitted by the Pension Office as due to service in Mexican war, should not entitle him to more pension. It seems reasonable that this disability should be added to others of service origin and he should be rated accordingly.

Your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendments:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting an increase of pension to W. P. Snowden."

In line 6 strike out the words "who served as" and insert in lieu thereof the word "late."

In line 9 insert after the word "month" the words "in lieu of that he is now receiving."